from him half the rent, *viz.*, Rs. 40 which is credited to revenue. But the whole rent has to be paid to the owner of the building from the ordinary contingent grant. It is for this purpose that a sum of Rs. 80 is required.

When an additional staff was sanctioned, additional furniture had to be provided and for that purpose a sum of Rs. 240 is required. Again additional expenditure under water, electricity and telephone charges has to be met. The garden attached to the office has also to be maintained and some tools have to be purchased Provision had to be made for two gardeners. All these told, the additional amount required is Rs. 1,100. This is in addition to the amount already provided in the budget, *viz.*, Rs. 1,160. Hence I move for this supplementary grant.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether there are no suitable Government buildings at present lying vacant in which this office could be held?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N Kunjan Pillai: No, sir. On the other hand Government require more buildings to meet their requirement.

Mr. Nedumanagd R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether Government are giving out Government buildings on rent?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Government buildings are given on rent as residential quarters to certain officers to whom Government are under an obligation, under covenant, to provide quarters.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether some of the buildings acquired for the Thampanoor Valley Scheme are not available?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I believe all the buildings that could be used for holding offices are being so used. The Sub-Registrar's Office, the District Registrar's Office and certain other offices are housed in some of those buildings. There are some cudjan sheds which cannot be used for holding offices.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: May I know whether the building that was used to hold the office of the Traffic Superintendent is vacant?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I am not sure. I will enquire into it.

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar: Sir. I move that the report of the Public Accounts Committee and the Audit and Appropriation Accounts for 1111 submitted by the Account Officer be taken into consideration,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: Sir, I move the following motion:

This Council views with dissatisfaction the large increase in the amount under savings and recommends to Government that severe action be taken against those departmental heads who are responsible for large surplus as a result of false anticipations.

Sir, it need not be told here that correct budgetting is one of the prime factors that contribute to the safe and sound administration of a State. Much more than merely adjusting the finances to the routine expenditure of the country the budget should as far as possible be precise and the demands from departmental heads should as far as possible approximate to their actual needs. It was with this view in mind that the first Public Accounts Committee which met in 1109 advised Government.

President: Having regard to the policy under discussion I would advise the honourable member to move both his motions so that the whole matter might be discussed together by the House without any reduplication of arguments.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: Sir, I move the next motion also which runs as follows:—

This Council recommnds to Government that in future more details be furnished in the report of the Public Accounts Committee to justify the re-appropriation of funds from a voted to a non-voted head.

Sir, as I said, the Public Accounts Committee which met in 1109 observed that there was no judicious discrimination on the part of departmental heads in demanding from Government monies for the needs of their departments.

President: Order, order. It is now quarter to three. It is open to the President to lay down the manner in which this discussion should take place. But I do not wish to curtail discussion on this very important document. The House will begin to discuss malaria at half past three. I do not know how long the House will take for finishing discussion on that subject. If there is any time left after that, we can consider other business again. But if possible the discussion on the Public Accounts Committee should be finished today. With that idea honourable members may proceed with their observations.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: Coming to recent years, it is very lamentable to us the representatives of the people and not very creditable on the part of Government that as we pass on from year to year the anticipations had been falsified more and more. We are now discussing the report for a year in which it has accumulated to an unprecedented amount. In 1111, the surplus balance which has not been mostly surrendered in time or even late in the year to Government comes to over Rs. 30 lakhs. This is nearly 12·7 per cent. of the aggregate grant. The Government do not as a result

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

of the examinations of departmental heads adduce adequate causes which can justify the position of the departmental heads who made the demands. I wonder how the committee has been satisfied with the explanations offered by the departmental heads, which are no reasons or explanations at all. The Public Accounts Committee which had considered with due deliberation the explanations has no remarks to suggest.

The demands which have been falsified to the largest degree come under the P. W and the Education Departments. The Chief Engineer would justify as he has justified in the committee, that it was as a result of certain adjustments or alterations of heads from non-capital to capital works that he was obliged to leave a surplus of more than Rs. 13 lakhs. In any case these large surpluses are a handicap to the Legislature inasmuch as when demands are made, when popular needs are stressed, we hear the answer from the Government side that there are no funds. If accurate adjustments are made by the departmental heads we would have found funds for needs which would contribute to the development of our nation-building activities. There is a common and legitimate grievance that in rural parts there are no communications, no facilities for medical aid, and that poor people are suffering from wants of a primary and imperative nature. If at all any alleviation could, and should, be given in any direction it can be done only if we have funds.

Coming to the Education Department, which is a department where one can very easily adjust the demand, where one can very correctly foresee the demand to the actual need, we find very large surplus. It comes to over Rs. 1,12,841. In that department there are fewemergencies, there is little scope for unexpected anticipations or expectations which would not be known when the budget was proposed by the departmental head. If at all there is any item where correct anticipations could not be made it is in respect of leave allowances. It is strange to find the Director has replied in the Public AccountsCommittee that, that surplus was due tofalse anticipation or the imposibility to anticipate correctly the other items of expenditure and that the leave allowances item has been decided not to be forecasted in the budget. Sir, it is very curious that when Government have tried to justify some of their adjustments they give vague answers to such questions saying that when the budget was prepared there was not sufficient time to foresee all they could correctly. In matters where Rs. 150 or Rs. 350 are involved the Government try to bring home to the minds of the members here that they have been very careful in making the demand of adjustments or reappropriations and that they have avoided waste and so forth. I will refer to an adjustment which is referred to in regard to the Secretariat, where I find the anticipations have been almost correct, as in the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. R. Elenkath.]

Revenue Department and in some other departments. For an amount of Rs 150 regarding the Public Service Commissioner's office, they have tried to convince the members of the Committee that, however small a surplus it may be, that has been appropriated in the Secretariat. It is very strange to find that while trying to give very correct and precise answers for clarifying the issues in such trivial cases the Government does not take the responsibility to convince the Committee or this House of the cause for their larger surpluses and adjustments. They are at a loss to justify big surpluses and adjustments that concern us more. Even in the case of appropriations, I doubt very much whether it is in the authority of the departmental heads, to make transfers from one head to the other. Regarding the control of expenditure, it is stated in the Audit and Appropriation Report for 1111 M. E. thus:

> "As however the estimates are framed some months in advance of the year to which they relate, it is impossible to foresee every contingency which may cause variation of expenditure; and to meet such contigencies there are statutory rules whereby the Government and the controlling officers are invested with certain powers of appropriation and re-appropriation; and provision is also made for the acquisition of supplementary funds from the Legislature during the course of the year."

This is given in justifiication of the various re-appropriations after the declaration of the policy adopted by Government. It is further stated in these terms:—

> "The object of cotrol over expenditure is to secure as close an approximation as possible, of the actual expenditure to the amounts supplied by the Legislature in the voted section and to the appropriation sanctioned by Government for the non-voted items. To achieve this end the controlling officers must ensure that expenditure is not incurred without proper sanction and provision of funds, and that the total expenditure is kept within the grant or appropriation."

In some instances the departmental heads have exceeded the Committy's directions or contravened their directions. The amount involved in the year 1111 was about thiry lakhs, inthe previous year it was 7 lakhs and in the year previous to it it was a little more. In spite of the directions given by the Committee I have to point out that Government have not taken care to see that the demands are made in the proper way and whenever it is found absolutly necessary to the extent of the amount.

Another point which I wish to bring to the notice of Government about re appropriation is this. Although they are entitled to do as they like they have a duty in taking this House into their confidence. In as far as re-appropriation takes place, it is to be observed that the amounts set apart for particular items are spent towards that purpose which are more necessary than for the purpose for which the amount was intended and originally

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

meant. We are at a loss to know how Rs. 2 lakhs which was spent for the Travancore House in Madras are lacking in details. That is the only amount re-appropriated. Of course there might be a big surplus in the course of the year. That could not be foreseen or conclusively proved till the end of the year. When this re-appropriation was made we would all like to know, whether there was a surplus or whether the surplus was anticipated at the time the re-appropriation was made. Of course the Government have powers under Section 32 to authorise any amount for any emergent item of expenditure before they get a conclusive proof of surpluses. We do not know whether any other prime necessity of the State was sacrificed for finding out funds. That point requires greater elucidation.

A word about the way in which the Government have been careful to use their powers under Section 32 of the Regulation. It is indeed creditable to Government that in recent years the amounts that have been certified by Government have been very much smaller than in previous years. Of course the consciousness that they can resort to it as often as they could and at any moment may have been responsible for this. But in recent times, Government have tried to bring in supplementary demands wherever possible and to see that the power of certification is availed of very sparingly. When I view the question in this light I should not be misunderstood as pleading that there is sufficient justification for making an injudicious demand in the original budget resulting in a large surplus. It is not at all strange to observe that the Government have been able to exercise their power of certification very rarely because large surpluses are caused by false foreseeing resulting in facilities for huge re-appropriations. In other words they have been getting large savings which they can re-appropriate by their own authority. In the absence of such a position the Government's position would have been highly commendable. My object in moving this motion is that, at least in future, Government would direct the departmental heads and the Financial Secretary to scrutinise their demands very carefully before budget proposals are cent up to Government. Now, the Accounts Department has been separated from the Finance Department and there is an experienced Financier to guide the financial activities of all departments. In making re-appropriations also this House should be taken into their fullest confidence as much as possible.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Sir, I support the motion. My object in doing so is to point out the imperfect nature of the Public Accounts Committee's Report that has been placed before us. The Supplemental Rules concerning the Public

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair]

Accounts Committee are published at pages 123-124 of the State Council Manual. One of the provisions is :—

"The Financial Secretary may report any type of financial irregularity to the Committee. In particular, the following classes of cases shall, subject to like control, be reported, namely :"

A number of them are enumerated. I would draw the attention of the House to one item.

"Careless estimating resulting in avoidable supplementary estimates, excess demands or unnecessary lapse of grants"

These things should have been adequately dealt with in the report. Here, we have 16 instances of careless anticipations. 10 instances show cases where suplementary grants were got unnecessarily and 6 cases where more expenses were incurred. Regarding 10 cases wherein suplementary grants were made, surpluses over and above the budget grants have been obtained which means that the anticipations made by the heads of departments even at the time of the presentation of the Budget were erroneous. What did Government intend by asking the departmental heads to lay before us their correct anticipations as far as possible? It was thought that Government might adjust the expenses in conformity with the funds that become available for expenditure. My friend Mr. Elenkath remarked that since there is dearth of funds certain necessities have to be avoided. If there had been careless estimates, adequate reasons ought to have been given. The report shows that the Public Accounts Committee deliberated for an hour. It sat from 11-30 to 12-40 and discussed the whole Appropriation Report. They managed to examine some heads of departments in the meanwhile. I fail to see why of all persons Mr. George should be examined. That is what the report says. Probably the Government might have thought that only his forecast was the most correct one. The anticipations were erroneous in the case of Public Works, Education, General Administration, Industries, Excise, Police, Administration of Justice, Scientific and Miscellaneous departments, Anchal and the item under miscellaneous. Explanations were called for from the departmental officers. Certain of the other expenses seem to be authorised under Section 32 of the Regulation. It is not that sort of report that we want for discussion, We do not want a committee to say that the Government have the power to certify certain expenses under Section 32. It is no revelation to us since we are aware that Government has got that power. Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi, I am sorry he is not now here, a member of the Committee, ought to have got the explanations from the departmental officers who made erroneous forecasts. The Chief Engineer saysabout the dredger and adds that the money that was set apart

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

for the leper colony was not spent by him. It was up to the Committee to ask why the Chief Engineer had not spent it, and why he made such a demand. The report does not give any satisfactory explanation for that. If that amount was not demanded and sanctioned, we could have utilised it for other better purposes. The report closes like this —

> "It was thus due to circumstances beyond the control of the departments and to other unforeseen causes that the supplementary grants were not fully spent during the year."

This is to say the least of it imperfect. The report is silent as to what those circumstances are. This is what the committee says with regard to the Director of Industries on his erroneous demand :—

> "Since only three or four months of the year had elapsed when the additional allotment was applied for, it was not possible to anticipate savings from other heads in the budget of the year."

I ask, is it a satisfactory explanation? We all know that the correct savings were not anticipated. Is it enough for one to say "it was not possible." Why was it not possible? That was what the Commitee should have enquired into. With regard to the Excise Department also it is stated "it was not possible; Police Department "it was not possible", Anchal Department—a similar explanation. Regarding Head Sirkar Vakil's Department "The additional grant applied for was under "Fees to Vakils" and it was done so because it was not possible to foresee at that time the savings which resulted under Salaries and Establishments". They are silent as to why it was not possible. They add "The Financial Secretary informed the Committee that the suggestion of the Committee that examined the Accounts of 1110 that the results in the stock-taking of the type plant in the Government Press and Central Prison Press might be published in the report". But this does not find a place and the reasons adduced for not publishing it are not at all convincing. The Public Accounts Committee have not carefully gone through the explanations nor have they properly scrutinised cases wherein unnecessary supplementary grants have been obtained. My submission in conclusion is that the report discloses a dereliction of duty on the part of the honourable members that took part in the deliberations of the Committee. They should have at least presented a fuller report on this matter. In the Audit and Appropriation Report when the question of appropriation of accounts comes Government lays down that in regard to variations of funds it has to be seen whether sufficient reasons exist or not. I ask, is there any instance in whch sufficient reasons have been given in the same ? I just now pointed out ten instances in which there were over estimates. Now here have I been able to find anything satisfactory by way of information in the report. The members of the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. R. Elenkath]

Public Accounts Committee remain contented with the statement that Government have power to certify an expenditure under Section 32. So far as over estimates are concerned they said simply that explanations were not possible. No satisfactory explanations were offered in any of these cases. I wish every member of this House would vote for the motion for the reasons I have stated.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvila: I rise to support the motion. Whenever I have had occasion to visit different parts of this country I have always heard people say that we have no money for some of the items mentioned in the report namely irrigation, education and agriculture. We find from the report that savings have been made under all these items. Wherever we go in Kuttanad side we hear the complaint that they want protective irrigation; and savings have been made under that item. There has been a constant complaint from primary school teachers that there has been a cut of 8 annas in their salary. I think the Director of Public Instruction has promised in this House on another occasion to consider about it. In spite of that, he has made a surplus in the grant for the Education Department and he has not been good enough to consider the request of these teachers. About medicine I have already called the attention of this House and a saving has been made under that head also. The report says that savings have been effected on the purchase of European medicines. I do not mind whether it is European Indian medicine. I am sorry to find that the surplus has been made under this head.

(At this stage Mr. K. R. Elenkath tried to pass between the speaker and the Chair.)

President: The honourable member cannot pass between the speaker and the Chair.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvila: The whole thing therefore seems to be a lack of knowledge of the actual needs in the country side. It is a surprise why the departmental heads cannot see eye to eye with the non-officials with regard to the needs of the people. These are items for which the people in the country want more funds to be set apart. This is true also of loans. Mr. George has said that the lapse is due to the lack of security. I feel it is his duty as well as that of the Government to evolve some way by which the method of distributing the loans, especially for small amounts, should be found. Reference has been made especially by the chairman of the Committee that it may be entrusted to co-operative societies. I know the feelings in this country towards co-operative societies. But at the same time, there are at least a few good co-operative societies

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

and I hope that since this recommendation has come from the chairman of this Committee who is also the administrative head of this country, some attempt will be made either through co-operative societies or other ways to meet this great need in our country. I hope that the Land Revenue Commissioner will not allow funds to lapse in this particular item.

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan : Sir, may I be permitted to say a few words by way of explanation so far as the Education Department is concerned? The Education Department has figured very prominently in the discussion this afternoon, but I am afraid there has been considerable misapprehension with regard to the savings, and the supplementary demands of this department. It has been pointed out that on the one hand the Education Department has saved Rs. 1,38,000 and on the other hand the department came to the House for a supplementary demand to the extent of Rs. 30,000 and this is criticised as bad budgetting and the head of the department made responsible for it. As has been repeatedly pointed out on the floor of this House, out of Rs. 47 lakhs in the Education budget about Rs. 34 lakhs are for salaries and establishment and the largest portion of the savings in the Education Department from year to year is under salaries and establishment.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath : May I know the approximate amount that will have to be spent on the item of increment of pay and allowances ?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan : I am afraid I cannot give any estimate at present. But, Sir, how is it possible for the department to anticipate how many people would take privilege leave, how many sick leave and how many will die ? The Education department is a vacation department.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath : May I know whether death means less expenditure or more expenditure ?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan : Less, because if a man on Rs. 175 were to die, the department may appoint a substitute in the lowest grade. Similarly if a man on Rs. 175 takes leave he gets only half his pay and a substitute on Rs. 40 or even Rs. 25, may be put in.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath : May I know whether there was any abnormal death cases in 1111 ?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan : As the Financial Secretary has explained in this House, under the conditions existing here it will be more convenient and expedient to continue the existing arrangement. That is a matter which the Financial Secretary is more competent to deal with.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether any general criterion could not be had with regard to leave allowances ?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: It can be done. We can make a rough estimate as to how many people are going to take leave. That is a different method and it can be followed if the Financial Secretary and the Government decide to do so. But consistent with the existing practice that has been going on from year to year, we do not provide for leave allowances separately. Taking the bigger sums of Rs. 10,000 and above lapsing in the budget items given on pages 62 and 63, you will find that they are nearly all under salaries or grants. Under the item grant-in aid to private colleges out of an allotment of Rs. 12,000 only an amount of Rs. 1000 was spent. In previous years we used to spend far more under this head. But during 1111, we spent much less because most of the colleges did not work at a deficit. So maintenance grants could not be given. The Madras University was very generous and a large number of pupils passed the School Final. Consequently admissions in colleges were good and the fee income was large. How could we anticipate that the Madras Government were going to deal leniently with the School Final candidates ?

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether this explanation was submitted by the Director before the Public Accounts Committee ?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: I did not appear before the Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: It is stated in the Public Accounts Committee Report that explanations in the case of false anticipations were called for. I want to know whether the explanation of the Director of Public Instruction was given to the Committee.

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: I did not happen to be the Director of Public Instruction when the explanation was called for. From the records I cannot say whether full explanation was given. If full explanation was not given to the committee that is no reason why I should not do so now and explain matters to the honourable members of this House.

Turning to the other side, why did the department come to the House for a supplementary demand when Rs. 1,38,000 was lapsing? Government would have been perfectly willing to meet the whole expenditure from the anticipated surplus. But a question of principle was involved The Department of Education made three or four demands One demand, for instance, was for Rs. 20,000 for paying grants to schools opened since 1106. We could easily have met this item by diverting the whole sum required for this purpose

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

from salaries. I came to the House for a supplementary grant of Rs. 20,000 because a question of principle was involved. A reduction of Chackrams 14 in the pay of the teachers was made in order to pay teachers of schools opened since 1106. That principle was approved by the House. If the House feels that we should divert funds for new services we shall gladly do so. Our view is that even for small items when a question of principle is involved it is better to obtain the consent of the House. Another item for which a supplementary grant was asked was for the appointment of a Research Chemist in the Science College. It was a special appointment. Another item was for the increase in the grant for the Boy Scout Association. A grant of Rs. 2500 was given to the Boy Scouts Association. Subsequently on a further consideration Government decided that the grant should be increased to Rs. 5,000 and we took the vote of the House. We could easily have diverted Rs. 2,500 from some other item. It is better that we place those items involving new services or principles before the House. You will see that the nature of the lapses is such that we were not in a position to make any correct or even approximate forecast of the possible anticipated savings. The supplementary grants are brought in because they involve questions of principle or new services, for which it is considered necessary to obtain the approval of the House.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : As a member of the Public Accounts Committe, in fairness to the Committee I must say that it bestowed all possible care that it could. Source of income may be anticipated, source of expenditure may be anticipated, but not source of misapprehension regarding the work of the Committee. Even the Director of Public Instruction need not be very sorry that he was not there. Government had ample materials at their hands to place before the Committee and the Committee was satisfied regarding the *bona fides* of the arguments adduced by the different departmental heads.

I do quite admit that this is a technical matter and unless there is some change brought about in the constitution we cannot possibly have a committee sitting upon the accounts under the limited time at our disposal. I must say in fairness to myself and my colleagues that we had bestowed all possible attention to the matter and the Government was fair enough to supply all materials to us and they never kept anything behind our backs. In that spirit, I must also say that the honourable gentleman is not very kind in saying that we did not bestow all possible attention on the discussions in the Public Accounts Committee's sittings.

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar : Sir, the first charge that has been levelled is that the Public Accounts Committee has failed in its duty in not obtaining proper explanations for savings.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President : The honourable member must be brief in his remarks.

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar : The explanations are given in detail in the Audit and Appropriation Report itself. About 30 pages in that report are devoted for explaining the savings under each head. The members of the Public Accounts Committee must have studied this report and the notes prepared by the Financial Secretariat. After studying this report they gave this verdict:--

> "On examining the report we found that this increase in the amount under "Savings" was the result of certain circumstances which either arose after the budget was framed or were not capable of being foreseen at the time of the budget."

This was the deliberate verdict given by the Public Accounts Committee which contained representatives of both the Houses of Legislature. That is the general explanation for the first charge.

Before I pass on to details, I want to remove one misconception under which some honourable members are labouring. It is with regard to the item of expenditure incurred on the Travancore House. It is a non-voted subject. Members of the Legislature who comment on that do not therefore seem to be in order.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath : Sir, my objection was that it is not permissible to divert the savings from voted heads to non-voted heads but before doing so Government ought to have taken the House into their confidence.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know whether the Financial Secretary is in order to say that anything out of order has been transacted in this House and whether he is aware that the Chair is here to say what is in order and what is not in order?

President : The Financial Secretary expressed his opinion only.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath : May I know, Sir, whether the members of this House have no right to review and discuss matters that are placed before them?

President : Order, order. The details as to the necessity for an expenditure under a non-voted head are not within the purview of the House to discuss. But if in the course of the discussion, it is stated that a certain amount has been transferred to a non-voted head or utilised for a non-voted expenditure it is within the powers of the House to ask explanations for that procedure.

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar : Sir, it is not really a case of reappropriation of grant from the voted head as has been described in the report. It is a mistake. In Madras it was held by constitutional lawyers that it is open to Government to allot grants for non-voted items of expenditure whether there are savings or no savings.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President: That is the explanation.

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar: As regards savings from other heads I may say that the savings do not indicate any negligence or carelessness on the part of the officers concerned. There are good valid reasons for the savings. The Public Accounts Committee went into the causes for the savings very carefully and they were quite satisfied with them.

One big item of savings is from that allotted for buildings, communications, etc. The out-lay on town planning and drainage schemes incurred in 1111 and the previous years was decided to be transferred from revenue to capital at the end of the year and this accounts for the saving of about Rs. 7 lakhs. The savings under Education have been explained in detail by the Director of Public Instruction. The savings under Forest and Medical were already explained in the Public Accounts Committee Report. Under capital the savings amount to Rs. 13·09 lakhs from the following items:—

	Rs.
Willingdon Water Works	1·20 lakhs.
Mofussil Water Supply Scheme	2·14 ,,
Trivandrum Drainage	3·25 ,,
Pallivasal Hydro Electric scheme	2·20 ,,
Telephone Trunk Line	1·50 ,,
Clay Refining Factory	2·90 ,,

The total comes to 13·19 lakhs of rupees, and this was offset by excesses amounting to Rs. 6·50 lakhs under Town planning.

Under the Drainage the savings were due to the delay in land acquisition and under Water Works it was due to delay in land acquisition and also the need for conducting more than one boring. These are all items of big capital expenditure and cannot be rushed hastely. The savings under Pallivasal Hydro Electric scheme were due to unforeseen causes and this was explained in a Press Communique.

The savings under Clay Refining were due to the fact that the ceramic expert was engaged only at the close of 1111 and the work did not therefore start during that year. The savings in the item "Telephone Trunk line" occurred because it was not taken up during the year on account of the pending negotiations with the Government of India. Now I have to explain the savings under loans and advances.

The provision of Rs. 5 lakhs was made under this head for land acquisition purposes in connection with the Town Planning Scheme in the budget for 1111. This was not utilised during the year owing apparently to the dropping of the Thampanoor Project. The grant of Rs. 5 lakhs to the A. D. Cotton Mill Company was

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar.]

not utilised as the Government reconsidered the question. These are the explanations for the savings under big items of expenditure. I may explain now how the remaining savings occurred. These grants are distributed among various officers and even if a little saving occurs in each office, the sum total amounts to a big figure. The explanation for them is found in detail in the Public Accounts Committee's report and the charge of dereliction of duty on the part of officers concerned is not fair or proper.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know why there was an unprecedented surplus of Rs. 30 lakhs for the year 1111?

President: The Financial Secretary has already explained that there was a change of policy on the part of Government. The Government made up their minds to drop the Thampanoor Valley scheme and not to give the loan to A. D. Cotton Mills. And thus the surplus has been effected.

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar: Therefore what I state is that the officers cannot be accused of carelessness for the savings that occurred. With these words I request the honourable member not to press the resolution.

Mr. K.R.Elenkath: Sir, my object in moving this resolution was only to make a suggestion to Government. But here I find the Financial Secretary justifying the position of Government and justifying himself.

President: We cannot proceed further since the clock has struck 3-30 and the adjournment motion has to commence.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

MALARIA.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: I beg to move that the business of the House be now adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the grave and alarming situation caused by the outbreak of malaria in a virulent epidemic form in Perumkadavila and other eastern pakuthies of Neyyattinkara taluk and some of the pakuthies of Vilavankod, Kalkulam and Nedumangad taluks adjoining the area.

Sir, it is with a deep sense of responsibility and a feeling which one cannot but give vent to before the representatives of the people that I bring to the notice of this House the alarming condition prevalent in the areas I have mentioned in the motion. The epidemic of malaria has been raging in recent years in South Travancore, especially in the Neyyattinkara taluk and in the adjoining pakuthies of the neighbouring taluks; and the Government have been very

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